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D. BELL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Donald V. Smart

Art Unit : 2881

Serial No. : 09/633,837

Examiner : C. Jackson

Filed : August 7, 2000

Title : PULSE CONTROL IN LASER SYSTEMS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed July 16, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the detailed description:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 8 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The operator can choose a desired laser pulse width by computer control. The computer 11 (FIGS. 1 and 2) is preprogrammed using a look-up table to provide the correct Q-switch storage time for the desired laser pulse width. The computer also provides the correct timing signal for the AOM deflector. Once the operator has chosen a desired pulse width, then the laser can be operated at any repetition rate below the maximum repetition rate that corresponds with this storage time, without change in the total energy per pulse or the pulse width. Thus, the energy delivered to the resistor, the pulse width, and the peak power are fixed at constant values over all repetition rates. --

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01 FC:1202 72700-01 In the claims:

Please amend claims 40, 55, and 86-88 as follows:

-- 40. (Thrice amended) A method of operating a pulsed laser system comprising a laser source and a switch configured to be closed to cause energy to be stored by the laser source for a desired period of time, and to be opened to allow energy to be emitted from the laser source during an emission period, the method comprising:

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